IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO. 10/618,253 ATTY DOCKET NO. 23792.3

INVENTOR: Hector Mark Estrada, Jr. EXAMINER: P. Philogense

TITLE: Radiolucent Long Bone Fixator GROUP ART UNIT: 3733 Ring

FILING DATE: July 11, 2003

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Dear Sir or Madam:

Applicant hereby timely responds to the Final Office Action dated March 29, 2006 as follows.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), a Petition for Extension of Time to and including September 29, 2006, is filed contemporaneously herewith along with the requisite fees.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

The declaration of Hector Mark Estrada, Jr. under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 ("Estrada Declaration" or "Estrada Decl.") including Exhibits A, B and C attached thereto is attached following page 10 of this paper.